



State of Arizona

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STATEMENT BY GOVERNOR JAN BREWER

U.S. Supreme Court Rules on English Language Learner Case, *Horne vs. Flores*

PHOENIX – “Today’s decision by the United States Supreme Court in *Horne vs. Flores* is a very important ruling that says Arizonans, and not federal judges, should determine the success of English Language Learner programs in Arizona’s public schools. I congratulate Superintendent Tom Horne and leaders of the Arizona Legislature who vigorously pursued this case on behalf of the citizens of Arizona despite resistance from the previous Administration and our Attorney General.

“Although I am very pleased to learn of the State of Arizona’s victory in the courtroom, I am even more pleased that we are winning this effort in the classroom. A recent report from the Arizona Department of Education reflects very positive progress with the state’s new models that include actual English language development – Arizona students that have gained proficiency in English have more than doubled over the last two years to nearly 40,000 students.”

“This ruling also promises to restore an important balance across the United States between judicial consent decrees and the inherent value and importance of protecting elected officials ability to improve and modernize state programs in our democratic form of government.”

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